

in scholarships to approximately 7,000 Hispanic American high school seniors. It is the largest high school-to-college program for Hispanic students in the country.

This pioneering diversity effort was initiated by Richard Castro, a McDonald's owner/operator in my home district, El Paso, Texas. RMHC/HACER now comprises 33 local programs, including a thriving El Paso program. All are jointly supported by RMHC, its local affiliates, and McDonald's owner/operators.

RMHC/HACER addresses the very real need to increase the Hispanic high school graduation rate and Hispanic participation in our colleges and universities. Hispanic youth drop out of high school at a higher rate than any other major RMHC/population group. They also lag far behind their peers in college attendance and graduation. HACER provides Hispanic youth an incentive and a means to change these trends.

RMHC/HACER is one of many ways that Ronald McDonald House Charities, with support from the McDonald's system, fosters and supports the educational aspirations of America's youth. The Hispanic Scholarship Fund award is a fitting recognition of an organization that truly gives back to the community and our nation.

HONORING MORLEY BALLANTINE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 2, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take this moment to recognize a woman who has exemplified extraordinary dedication to philanthropic work, my friend, Morley C. Ballantine who currently serves as editor and chairman of the Durango Herald. Recently, Morley was awarded the high honor of being named Colorado's "Outstanding Philanthropist" by the Governor's Commission on National Community Service and the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy, in recognition of her support for a whole array of charitable and humanitarian based institutions. Morley's robust efforts to make her community, state and nation a better place make her more than deserving of this distinction.

Morley was chosen for the prestigious award out of over 100 nominations. Morley was nominated by four different individuals for this distinguished honor and was selected as the winner by a committee of 50.

The reasons Morley was chosen are many. Over the years, Morley has not only consistently given of her financial resources, but she has also actively participated in a host of activities geared toward helping her community and fellow man. In 1987, she helped start the Women's Resource Center in Durango, and is also a founding member of the Colorado Women's Foundation. In addition, she served on the state commission on the Status of Women, local and state League of Women's Voters' boards, local arts and library boards, the state Anti-Discrimination Commission, the Colorado Land Use Commission and the state National Historic Preservation.

This, friends and colleagues, is a truly remarkable legacy of service. It's a legacy that Morley should be proud of.

Morley's dedication and devotion to philanthropic causes both great and small is truly worthy of our praise. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the State of Colorado and the U.S. Congress, I would like to thank Morley for her incredible efforts to benefit her community, and congratulate her on the much deserved award.

We are proud of Morley and grateful for her service.

COMMENDING THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF PITTSFIELD

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 2, 2000

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to commend the Boys and Girls Club of Pittsfield on its 100th Anniversary. It is one of only 13 Boys and Girls clubs in the country to reach its 100th Anniversary, and over the years it has provided an invaluable service to thousands of boys and girls throughout the region.

The national Boys and Girls Club movement was born in 1860, when a group of women in Hartford decided to provide local boys with an alternative to roaming the streets. In 1906, several Boys Clubs decided to affiliate. The Federated Boys Clubs in Boston was formed with 53 member organizations. In 1956, Boys Clubs of America received a Congressional Charter. In 1990, the name was changed to the Boys and Girls Club of America. The Boys' and Girls' Club of Pittsfield was formed in the early days of the organization and remains special and unique in our community.

The Pittsfield facility was established on June 28, 1900 as a club for boys in Pittsfield with an \$800 donation by local philanthropist Zenas Crane. It soon embarked upon a tradition of service and community involvement catering to several generations of Pittsfield youth. With an initial membership of 320, the club held its first meetings on the second floor of the Renne Block on Renne Avenue with the intent of preventing idleness and instilling healthy work and home values in its membership. Providing an array of recreational and educational opportunities for countless youth under the auspices of its first superintendent, Prentice Jordan, the club soon expanded beyond its original quarters. In 1906, when its membership grew to over 800, Crane funded a move to a more specious residence on Melville Street. Currently, the membership of the club exceeds 5000, making it the largest single-unit organization affiliated with the Boys and Girls Club of America.

The Boys and Girls Club of Pittsfield continues to inspire and enable thousands of young people to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens. I am proud to stand and honor them today and appreciate the opportunity to recognize them before the United States Congress.

RECOGNIZING DR. FRANK S. FOLK—68 YEARS YOUNG

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 2, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Frank S. Folk, a resident of Brooklyn, and to celebrate his 68th birthday. I ask my colleagues assembled here today to please join me in acknowledging Dr. Folk's remarkable life.

On this day, October 2nd, in 1932, Frank Folk was born in Vonville, South Carolina. As a young boy, Frank possessed excellence, greatness, the favor of God, love and honor, the law of kindness in tongue, morality and character. As a personal friend of Dr. Folk, I know that I can speak for his many friends and neighbors in commending him on his many years practicing medicine in Brooklyn. While Dr. Folk's professional accomplishments are too numerous to mention, I do want to point out that he has served on the Board of Directors of the New York City Health and Hospital Corporation and on Kingsbrook Hospital Executive Board—two of New York's most important health organizations.

As Chair of my Health Committee since 1991, Dr. Folk has demonstrated his commitment to working to improve the health and well-being of all members of our community. He also has been honored by the American Medical Society, which has bestowed the Hektoen Gold Medal and the Hektoen Bronze Medal upon Dr. Folk. As further evidence of his accomplishments, I need only mention that Dr. Folk is certified by the American Board of Surgery, the New York State Medical Board, and the National Board of Medical Examiners. Finally, Dr. Folk serves his community and his Nation as a Colonel with the New York State Army National Guard.

Mr. Speaker, my good friend, Dr. Frank Folk, is more than worthy of receiving our birthday wishes today, and I hope that all of my colleagues will join me today in honoring this truly remarkable man.

ALLIANCE FOR JUSTICE AND PHYSICIANS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 2, 2000

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize and congratulate Alliance for Justice and Physicians for Social Responsibility and the more than 200 organizations, including the Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence, North Suburban Chicago Million Mom March, and the Interfaith Initiative Against Gun Violence for their leadership of the First Monday 2000: Unite to End Gun Violence campaign. In my district, I'd like to recognize Northwestern University, the University of Illinois at Chicago, John Marshall Law and Chicago Kent College of Law for their hosting of First Monday 2000 events.